



Flathead National Forest

Media Release

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Flathead National Forest Campgrounds Start Opening

Food Storage Order Active on Entire Forest

KALISPELL, MT. – Flathead National Forest campgrounds start opening this weekend. Big Creek, Emery Bay, Holland Lake, Swan Lake, and Tally Lake Campgrounds and the Doris Point Boat Launch will open to the public Friday, May 11, 2012. These campgrounds and recreation areas are operated by the forest concessionaire, Big Sky Recreation.

- Big Creek Campground is located approximately 20 miles north of Columbia Falls along the North Fork of the Flathead River. There are 22 campsites and a group site. The campsites are first-come first-serve, and the group site is available by reservation at www.recreation.gov or 1-877-444-6777. The fee is \$13 per camping unit per night and an additional fee for the group site. The day-use area, which includes a boat launch, has a day-use fee of \$4 per vehicle, or a season for \$30. For more information contact the Hungry Horse-Glacier View District at 387-3800.
- Emery Bay Campground is located on the east shore of the Hungry Horse Reservoir off of Road 38, approximately 6 miles from Martin City. There are 26 campsites and 2 group sites. Amenities include a boat ramp and water. Single units are \$13 per night. The campsites are first-come first-serve, and the group sites are available by reservation at www.recreation.gov or 1-877-444-6777. For more information contact the Hungry Horse-Glacier View District at 387-3800.
- Holland Lake Campground is located approximately 1 ½ hours southeast of Bigfork, about 10 miles south of Condon, off of Montana Highway 83. There are 27 sites available on a first-come first-serve basis and 13 individual campsites available by reservation. The fee is \$15 per camping unit per night. A group site is also available for reservation. Reservations are available through www.recreation.gov or 1-877-444-6777. The Forest Service Owl Creek Packer Camp is located approximately a half-mile away with corrals, water and feed troughs available on a first-come first-serve basis. For more information contact the Swan Lake District Office at 837-7500.
- Swan Lake Campground is located directly south of the community of Swan Lake, approximately 15 miles southeast of Bigfork off of Montana Highway 83. The campground offers 36 family-sized campsites and a group site. Eleven of the family sites and the group site are available by reservation. The remaining camp sites are available on a first-come first-serve basis. The fee is \$15 per camping unit per night. There is a \$25 fee for the group site plus a \$15 fee for vehicle at the group site. The day-use area, across the highway from the campground, includes a boat launch, beach and a day-use group site that can be reserved. The day-use fee is \$4 per vehicle or a season pass for \$30. Reservations are available through www.recreation.gov or 1-877-444-6777, and a day-use season pass is available from the concessionaire. For more information contact the Swan Lake District Office at 837-7500.

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- Tally Lake Campground is about 12 miles west of Whitefish, and offers a wide variety of recreation facilities and activities. The campground has 40 campsites and a boat launch, open air pavilion, beach area, picnic site, and water. A camp host is on site during the summer months. The site has parking for 50 vehicles, a double vault toilet, picnic tables, fire grill, group fire ring, horse pit, volleyball court, and nature trail. There are several trails nearby and two trails within the campground. One group site (site 39) and the pavilion can be reserved through the national recreation website www.recreation.gov. There is an accessible dock at the boat launch, parking for 15 boats/trailers and vault toilet. For more information contact the Tally Lake District Office at 758-5204.
- Doris Point Boat Launch site is approximately 8 miles south of Hungry Horse on the West Side Hungry Horse Reservoir Road. The site features a two lane boat ramp with a dock, parking for approximately 70 vehicles with trailers, 2 vault toilets and a day use picnic area. The day-use fee is \$4 per vehicle or a season pass is available for \$30. For more information contact the Hungry Horse-Glacier View District at 387-3800.

Other campgrounds will open later in the month. The Doris Creek and Lost Johnny Campgrounds are scheduled to open Friday, May 18. Depending on weather conditions, the Lid Creek Campground is scheduled to open Thursday, May 24.

Forest campers and visitors are reminded that by law all food and food-related items must be stored in a bear-resistant manner. The Flathead National Forest is home to grizzly and black bears, and responsible human actions will help with unwanted bear encounters.

Campers are also reminded to be careful with fire. Never leave a fire unattended and be sure the fire is “dead out” before leaving.

For more information about campgrounds and food storage regulations on the Flathead National Forest, contact a local forest service office or visit www.fs.fed.us/r1/flathead.

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